

REMARKS

In this paper, claims 1, 2, 12, 17 and 20 are currently amended and claims 6-8 are canceled. After entry of the above amendment, claims 1-5 and 9-20 are pending, and claims 6-8 have been canceled.

The applicant appreciates the indicated allowability of claims 17, 18 and 20 if rewritten in independent form. Claims 17 and 20 have rewritten to be in independent form, so it is believed that claims 17, 18 and 20 are now allowable.

The specification has been amended to correct clerical errors.

Claims 1-16 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanehisa, et al (US 6,435,622) in view of Itou (US 6,559,564). This basis for rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the freewheel is attached to a cover member, wherein the cover member covers an opening in the hub that has a diameter sufficient to allow removal of the generating mechanism therethrough.

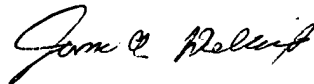
Kanehisa, et al discloses a bicycle hub body (22) that includes a splined engagement component (58) that engages corresponding splines (47) on a freewheel assembly (24). Itou discloses a front hub (1) that houses a generating mechanism (30)

It is well settled that the mere fact that two references are from the same field of endeavor does not make obvious the combination of their teachings. There must be some suggestion to combine the teachings of the multiple references. In this case, Itou's front hub is not used to pedal the bicycle and hence is not subjected to pedaling forces. Itou is not at all concerned with generators disposed in drive hubs. There is no motivation to install a generating mechanism in a hub that is driven by a freewheel mechanism such that the freewheel is mounted to a cover member that covers an opening big enough to pass the generating mechanism therethrough because of the pedaling forces involved.

Claim 12 has been amended to clarify that the second side of the hub body defines an opening having a diameter sufficient to allow removal of the generating mechanism therethrough, wherein a cover member is disposed at the second side of the hub body. As with claim 1, a freewheel is mounted to the first side of the hub body. As noted above, Itou is not at all concerned with generators disposed in drive hubs.

Accordingly, it is believed that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 has been overcome by the foregoing amendment and remarks, and it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested. Allowance of all claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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